



Syllabus

THE 370: Theology and Practice of Prayer **Genesis Bible Institute**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why is praying so difficult for so many? How often should we pray? What should we pray about? How can we improve our prayer life? Why do prayers go unanswered?

These questions and many others are answered as we join renowned pastor Timothy Keller on an in-depth exploration of Christian prayer. Keller provides insights from the likes of Augustine, John Calvin, Martin Luther and others, giving us a theological framework of prayer.

This class will equip you with the knowledge and ability to “jump start” your prayer life and the prayer life of others, using Biblical support and sound doctrine.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Summarize influential theologians’ thoughts on prayer;
- Differentiate between types of prayer;
- Answer common questions about prayer;
- Design a “prayer retreat”;
- Use Martin Luther’s model to create meditation plans;
- Recognize and categorize prayer models in the Bible;
- Create a daily prayer plan;
- Create effective, scripture-based prayers of adoration, praise, confession, thanksgiving and supplication;
- Quote from memory Matthew 6:9-13.

REQUIRED READING

Keller, Timothy. *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*. New York: Penguin, 2014. Print.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- *Study Guide Answers* (30 points / 30% of grade)
After you read the Study Guide and Keller’s book *Prayer*, you will answer questions related to the content of each chapter. This assignment is designed to help you understand the meaning of the text. There are a total of 60 questions. Each answer is worth 0.5 points.

- *Assignment 1: The ACTS Method of Prayer* (10 points / 10% of grade)
You will write five prayers following the ACTS model.
- *Assignment 2: Meditation and Prayer Journal* (15 points / 15% of grade)
You will create a meditation and prayer journal using a model by Martin Luther. The journal will include a total of ten prayers.
- *Assignment 3: Prayer Retreat* (20 points / 20% of grade)
You will create a prayer retreat suitable for individuals or groups. The retreat will be six hours long and you will plan activities based on 30-minute increments.
- *Final Exam* (25 points / 25% of grade)
The Final Exam will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions and assigned Scripture memorization. The exam will measure your knowledge of course concepts.

Summary of Assignments and Grading		
Study Guide Answers	30 points	30%
ACTS Prayers	10 points	10%
Meditation and Prayer Journal	15 points	15%
Prayer Retreat	20 points	20%
Final Exam	25 points	25%
Total	100 points	100%